FORM AND PRESENCE

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Abstract

“Revolution is to remind individuals that they are free” (CARERI, Francesco. 2017: 11)

Are our cities more modern today? How can we measure Modernity today? Should we use the concept of aesthetics or function? In fact our cities are more visually sophisticated and more technological innovated, but is it a question of aesthetic or function, or should they be measure, instead of the object, by the subjects that live in the cities - our bodies -, in other words, measured by the presence of the body? Could we measure the presence of Modernity by our bodies?

Studding the architecture as an art object and as a practical object we identify the failure of the Modern Movement - the division of Art and Order - as the formula for a Modern World. In order to know what to be modern today means, and guided by the concept of Use as expressed by Wittgenstein, we explore the concept of presence by the experience of the body in world. Exploring the concept of aesthetics in Greek culture whom understands it by sensuous experience and the phenomenology of the body from Edmund Husserl (1859-1938) and Merleau-Ponty (1901-1961) who affirms the presence of the body by phenomena of the Being, we explore the dwelling as a manifestation of the being-in-the-world, and by that, also a new definition of the concept of aesthetics based in the concept of ‘atmospheres’ as state by Gernot Böhme (1937-).

Based in the phenomena of ‘distance’ explored by Eugène Minkowski (1885-1972) and the concept of ‘appearance of distance’ from Walter Benjamin (1892-1940) we find in dwelling the ‘new aesthetics’ as way to define Modernity, a way to think and make architecture as a possibility of action, the manifestation of Being.

Keywords: Aesthetics, Experience, Atmospheres, Body, Architecture.